GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4511
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2007
WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS FROM J& K
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari;Prabhu Shri Suresh Prabhakar;Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted by the Government for development/withdrawal of troops/Para Military Forces (PMF) in the States;

(b) whether the Government proposes to withdraw/reduce troops from the civilian areas of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K);

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has assessed the ground situation of J&K;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government has held any discussion with various political parties in this regard;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) whether the Government has constituted any committee in this regard;

(i) if so, the details thereof and the terms and reference of the said committee; and

(j) the details of the recommendations made by the said committee and action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a): Central Para Military Forces are deployed in various States, from time to time, in aid to the civil authorities on the request of the State Governments, in the context of specific security related requirements and needs. There are no specific and fixed criteria for such deployment or withdrawal.

(b) to (j): The Security situation in Jammu & Kashmir is kept under continuous review, and security forces are deployed in different parts of the State for different duties such as border guarding, prevention of infiltration, counter insurgency and area domination, guarding of vital sensitive installations and persons under threat/risk, provision of general security in vulnerable areas, etc. As stated in reply to part (a), the deployment of the forces depends upon the requirements and is periodically reviewed by the State and the Central Governments.

There have been demands and reports from various sources, from time to time, about reduction of the level of security force deployment in view of the overall improvement in the security environment. The approach of the Government is to ensure that the deployment of security forces is related to the scale of problems and requirements on the ground. In this context, it has been decided to constitute a Committee under the Chairmanship of the Defence Secretary to examine the overall situation and security forces deployment in the light of the approach of the Government as stated above and to determine whether there is need to relocate and reconfigure the existing security forces deployment.